

Appl. No.: 09/855,342

Filed: May 14, 2001

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**REMARKS**

Responsive to the Examiner's indication that amendments to claims 25, 31, and 42 presented in the Amendment filed September 15, 2003, were not properly marked up, Applicants resubmit herewith a replacement "Amendments to the Claims" section. Claims 25 and 31 have been properly marked up to show deletion of the word "thereof," and claim 42 has been properly marked up to show that the period at the end of the claim is not newly inserted punctuation. Additionally, claims 12, 16, and 17 have been properly marked up to show that the period at the end of these claims is not newly inserted punctuation. No new matter is added by way of presentation of this "Amendments to the Claims" section, and the amendments presented herein reflect the intended amendments described in the Amendment filed September 15, 2003.

Claims 12-62 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this "Amendments to the Claims" section into the record of the above-identified application and to proceed with examination of this application in accordance with these amendments and in view of the comments provided in the Amendment filed September 15, 2003.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>CUSTOMER NO. 00026</b> <b>ALSTON &amp; BIRD LLP</b> Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Raleigh Office (919) 863-2200 Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260	<b>CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION</b> I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to Mail Stop Amendment at the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below. <i>Lynda Jo Pixley</i> Lynda Jo Pixley July 7, 2004 Date
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